GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1583
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH RUSSIA
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

he steps since taken in pursuance of the strategic partnership between India and Russia signed during the recent visit of the Russian President in different fields?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

During the State Visit to India by the President of the Russian Federation in October 2000, a Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and the Russian Federation was signed. The document defines the broad contours of Indo-Russian bilateral relations in the 21st century.

Pursuant to the visit of the President of the Russian Federation,discussions have commenced between the two sides on a visit to the Russian Federation by the Prime Minister of India.Ministerial exchanges covering various sectors have taken place and are planned to take place in the coming months. Foreign Office Consultations on a wide range of subjects, including strategic stability, have been initiated. The First Session of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan was held on November 20-21, 2000 in New Delhi. The 7th Session of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation was held in Moscow on January 15, 2001, which is expected to help in the further intensification of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. An Agreement between ONGC-Videsh Limited of India and M/s Rosneft of the Russian Federation relating to ONGC-VL`s participation in the Sakhalin-I oilfields has been signed.